GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2147
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2000
IMPORT OF CATTLE FEED
SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

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(a) whether India is importing cattle feed from the United Kingdom; (

(b) if so, the details of the import in the years 1997-98, 1998-99and 1999-2000; (

(c) whether the Government are aware that the said cattle feed caused the `madcow` disease in UK and is now spreading in other developing countries; and (

(d) if so, the preventive steps being taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. India has been importing compounded animal feed from the United Kingdom and the details of import in the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as follows:

Year	Qty (MTs)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1997-98	88.43	1.72
1998-99	130.43	4.36
1999-2000	105.03	2.22

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta)

(c) & (d) : There is no specific information in this matter. In India, we do not have a system of feeding cattele with meat/bone meal or animal offals. Madcow disease has never been reported in India. Cattle feed standards of Bureau of Indian Standards, which serve as guidelines for feeding, specifically prohibit incorporation of harmful chemicals or dead animal by-products in the cattle feed. Moreover, as a preventive measure, Government has already banned use of any product of animal origin in the cattle feed.